

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23-44 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled.)

Claim 23. (New.) A polypeptide having asparaginase activity and having an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% identical with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, residues 27-378 of SEQ ID NO:2, residues 30-378 of SEQ ID NO:2, residues 75-378 of SEQ ID NO:2 or residues 80-378 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 24. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 90% identical with SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 25. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 90% identical with residues 27-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 26. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 90% identical with residues 30-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 27. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 90% identical with residues 75-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 28. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 90% identical with residues 80-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 29. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 95% identical with SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 30. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 95% identical with residues 27-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 31. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 95% identical with residues 30-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 32. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 95% identical with residues 75-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 33. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 95% identical with residues 80-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 34. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 98% identical with SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 35. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 98% identical with residues 27-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 36. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 98% identical with residues 30-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 37. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 98% identical with residues 75-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 38. (New.) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is at least 98% identical with residues 80-378 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 39. (New.) A method of preparing a heat-treated product, comprising the sequential steps of:

- a) providing a raw material which comprises carbohydrate, protein and water
- b) treating the raw material with a polypeptide according to claim 23, and
- c) heat treating to reach a final water content below 35 % by weight.

Claim 40. (New.) The method of claim 39 which further comprises treating the raw material with an oxidoreductase capable of reacting with a reducing sugar as a substrate.

Claim 41. (New.) The method of claim 40 wherein the oxidoreductase capable of reacting with a reducing sugar as a substrate is a glucose oxidase; a pyranose oxidase; a hexose oxidase; a galactose oxidase; or a carbohydrate oxidase which has a higher activity on maltose than on glucose.

Claim 42 (New.) The method of claim 39 wherein the raw material is in the form of a dough and the enzyme treatment comprises mixing the enzyme into the dough.

Claim 43. (New.) The method of claim 39 wherein the raw material comprises intact vegetable pieces and the enzyme treatment comprises immersing the vegetable pieces in an aqueous solution of the enzyme.

Claim 44. (New.) The method of claim 39 wherein the raw material comprises a potato product.